GEO 3.0-001(DIV)(2)

SAH 1133 4-12.00 N/E

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of ERIC CHRISTIAN HINCE, et al

Serial No. 09/493579

Filed: 1.28.00

For: ANAEROBIC BIOREMEDIATION

SYSTEM

Group Art Unit 1744

Examiner Kedo

January 28, 2000

Assistant Commissioner for Patents Washington, D.C. 20231

## PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Sir:

In order to expedite the consideration of this application, these claims are being submitted as a divisional application:

48. A solid chemical composition for anaerobic biodegradation, detoxification, and transformation of toxic organic and inorganic compounds in contaminated geologic media, including one or more of the following granular Manganese (IV)-containing compositions, selected from the group consisting of glauconite, manganese greensand and pyrolusite.

49. A solid chemical composition in accordance with Claim 48 wherein the Manganese (IV) contained in said granular composition acts as an electron acceptor for manganese-reducing bacteria and/or other MRP anaerobic bacteria.